

FATHOM THIS!
The monthly newsletter from
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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Welcome to the October issue of Fathom This! and to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, your national park on San Francisco's historic Fisherman's Wharf. Below you will find announcements of just a few of the park programs you are invited to participate in during October. This month is also the U.S. Navy's annual Fleet Week. Navy vessels will visit San Francisco and open for public visitation. Hyde Street pier is a great place to view the parade of vessels coming through the Golden Gate, and the air show featuring the Blue Angels. Canadian vessels will also participate, as their Navy celebrates its 100th anniversary. For a schedule of Fleet Week events, see <http://www.fleetweek.us>.

Daily year-round admission prices to visit the historic vessels berthed at Hyde Street Pier are \$5 adults, ages 15 and under, free. Free with national park passes. Open every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's day. For a complete schedule of park events, please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, and the website of the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association at <http://www.maritime.org>.

Feel free to forward Fathom This! and enter it, in whole or in part, into blogs. If you would like to receive it regularly, or to cancel, please email the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov.

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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Join us during this special month and discover California's early Spanish history. Join us for these two ranger-led programs:

EXPLORING AND SETTLING CALIFORNIA

Sunday, October 3, 2pm, aboard Balclutha, Hyde Street Pier. Vessel admission. Information: 415-447-5000.

Cabrillo, Ayala, Anza, Portola. Arriving by land and by sea, Spaniards were the first outsiders to explore and establish settlements in California. The program includes a conversation with a costumed interpreter portraying Juan Bautista de Anza.

SPAIN COMES TO CALIFORNIA

Sunday, October 24, 3pm, in the Visitor Center, 499 Jefferson Street, at Hyde. Free. Information: 415-447-5000.

Long before the Stars and Stripes flew over California, the flag of the King of Spain appeared off the coast. Explore the voyage of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo. Learn of his exploits and legacy.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JOSIAH GARDENER; MASTER MARINER

Friday, October 8, 6:00pm, in the Maritime Library, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Donation: \$7 (general public); \$5 (Library Friends and San Francisco Maritime National Park Association members. Information and reservations: 415-561-7040, or melani_van_petten@partner.nps.gov.

Josiah Gardener, master mariner, has been going to sea since before the Civil War - he has fished the Grand Banks, cruised San Francisco's Barbary Coast, and faced gales and shipwreck. He is played by Dr. Glenn Gordinier, Mystic Seaport historian and former director of Mystic's living history program. Dr. Gordinier will bring Josiah Gardener to life with exciting and humorous tales of the world of the Yankee seafarer.

The Library is open every 3rd Saturday 10am-5pm, and M-F by appointment. Appointments: 415-561-7030 or ring doorbell. Immediate appointments usually available.

FLEET WEEK MILITARY FEE WAIVER

Admission fees to the park's historic floating vessels berthed at Hyde Street Pier will be waived for active military and veterans with I.D. on Saturday, October 9 through Monday, October 11 during Fleet Week. Come to the ticket booth, located halfway along Hyde Street pier, to pick up your free boarding passes.

SEA MUSIC CONCERT: LEE MURDOCK

Saturday, October 30, 8pm, aboard Balclutha, Hyde Street Pier. Tickets \$14 general, \$12 San Francisco Maritime National Park Association members. Information and reservations: 415-561-6662, ext. 33. Tickets also available at The Maritime Store, 2905 Hyde Street (to left of pier entrance), and at the door. Door opens 7:30pm on concert night.

Lee Murdock is one of the nation's leading performers of traditional and self-penned Great Lakes songs. On tour from Kaneville, Illinois, Lee Murdock has uncovered a boundless body of music and stories in the Great Lakes. There is an amazing timelessness in this music. Great Lakes songs are made of hard work, hard living, ships

that go down and ships that come in. Murdock's repertoire is a seamless blend of old work songs, mixed with his own original compositions and the work of other noted songwriters. "A fine job of recreating history and holding it up to a poet's light." -Sing Out! Magazine.

NEW PROGRAM: BIRD WATCHING FOR CHILDREN AND BEGINNERS

Sunday, October 31, 10-11am. Meets in the Visitor Center, 499 Jefferson Street, at Hyde. Free. All ages welcome!

Learn how to find and identify birds at Aquatic Park using binoculars and guidebooks. Guidebooks provided; bring binoculars if you have them. Dress warmly, in layers.

NEW VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR ASSISTANT DARREN DRISKILL

We welcome the park Volunteer Coordinator's new assistant, Darren Driskill. Darren was born and raised in Southern California. After his 1983 graduation from Victor Valley HS in Victorville, CA, he enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Watercraft Operator, and for the next four and a half years served aboard a variety of Army Maritime Vessels in Hawaii, Virginia, United Kingdom, and the Philippines. In 1988 he re-enlisted as an infantryman. His next assignment was as a paratrooper in Germany. In 1990, he deployed from Germany to Saudi Arabia for Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In 1995 Darren deployed for a second time, to Haiti as part of the United Nations Peace Keeping forces, serving as a rifle squad leader. Darren's next deployment was in 2006 to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. Darren was the Assistant Force Protection Officer at Camp Eggers, Kabul. His last assignment brought him full circle back to where his army career began, as a Watercraft Operator in Hawaii. Darren received his Associate of Applied Science degree from Central Texas College, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Thomas Edison State College, in Trenton, NJ. When not at work Darren enjoys fishing, gardening, and working on his 90 year old home. This is his first assignment with the National Park Service. Darren is looking forward to working with the staff, volunteers, and most importantly, the visitors to the park.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.library.nps.gov> The park library's catalog.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org> The park library's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.museum.nps.gov/safr/page.htm> The park museum catalog records.

<http://www.hydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park Living History program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://www.corsair-viking.org> San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.

<http://www.fleetweek.us> The U.S. Navy's official Fleet Week website.